

Recognition of Prior Learning

'Assessment & Accreditation, Quality Assurance and Implementation of Procedures'

BOLOGNA-SEMINAR – AMSTERDAM - THE NETHERLANDS

11-12 December 2008

Newsletter 3 - October 2008

The Bologna Seminar on Recognition of Prior Learning, Quality Assurance and the Implementation of Procedures (in Higher Education) will be held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, December 11 and 12, 2008. This seminar will be hosted by the Dutch Government and is organised in cooperation with the BFUG Coordination Group for LLL, EURASHE, EUA and ESU.

In this third Newsletter information about:

- Registration
- Programme
- Hotels
- Visa
- Themes and groups during the seminar
- Documents about RPL
- Next Newsletter.

Registration Procedure

In the last two weeks the registration for the seminar went very fast! At this moment we have still a few places left.

If you are interested in participating, you can send us an email with the required details (see below) and we will tell you as soon as possible what the situation is. At a certain moment we will have to work with a waiting list - and of course, if someone is cancelling his registration, we will inform the first person immediately.

Registration for this seminar is still free of charge. However, participants are expected to meet their own travel and accommodation costs.

If you want to participate in the Bologna Seminar, send an email to: info@leido.nl for the attention of Hans Daale, including the following details:

- Name
- Organisation
- Function
- Email address
- Short description of the relation between your function/organisation and the subject of the seminar.

Upon receipt of your e-mail, you will receive an acknowledgement. Should you fail the acknowledging e-mail within two days, please inform the Conference Secretariat: info@leido.nl.

Programme

In Newsletter 2 information has been given about the organisation of the presentations and the workshops. Below an actual overview is presented.

In the next newsletter we will describe the exact planning of the presentations and the workshops.

Thursday 11 December

09.45 - 17.00 h.

In the morning:

- Opening session, with:
 - Mrs. Odile Quintin, DG - European Commission
 - Representative of the Dutch Government

- Mr. Geert Dales, INHolland, President (Chairman of the Executive Board) of Hogeschool INHolland
- Presentations . Workshops
- Lunch
- In the afternoon:
- Presentations . Workshops

19.30 . 22.00 h. Candlelight dinner (on boats through the canals of Amsterdam)

Friday 12 December

09.30 . 16.00 h.

- In the morning:
- Presentations . Forum discussion
- Closing of the official part of this seminar incl. feedback on the outcomes of this seminar
- In the afternoon:
- Visit to Heineken (the international brewery) in Amsterdam:
- Lunch
- Presentation about their RPL-strategy and procedures, looking at the cooperation by Heineken with HEIs
- Visit to the Heineken Experience, an visual spectacle about the making of beer and the history of Heineken

Hotels: a request...!

If you are accepted by the organisation as a participant in the seminar, you can book a hotel in the centre or near the centre in Amsterdam. You can choose for one of the hotels, mentioned below. But of course you are free to book another hotel, for instance by using a website like www.booking.com or www.hotels.com. These kinds of websites are often offering the same hotels as mentioned by use for a lower price, under certain conditions.

The Conference venue is easily accessible by public transport, if you have a hotel in the centre of Amsterdam. You can take the metro (line 53) from one of the stations in the centre to Station Diemen-Zuid and then it takes a five minutes walk to the venue.

In one of the next newsletters we will give specific information about the tickets for the metro: where to buy and how to use them

Request!!

When you have booked a hotel, we would like to know which one, so we can send you an individual advice for travelling to the venue.

Another reason is that we will ask students of INHolland (our host-University of Applied Sciences) to be in the hotel, Thursday morning, to guide as much as possible participants to the venue . as an extra service.

So, our request is: *Please, send us by email the name of your hotel (after you have made a definitive booking).*

We will ask every participant again about the name of the hotel (if we did not receive it before the 1st of December)

*Eden Rembrandt Square Hotel *****
Amstelstraat 17, Amsterdam Centre

*Eden Hotel Amsterdam****
Amstel 144, Amsterdam Centrum

You can book a room, using the following website: www.edenhotelgroup.com.

Accor-Group

- Sofitel Amsterdam***, centre
- Novotel Amsterdam City**, close to the centre
- Ibis Amsterdam Centre**, centre
- Ibis Westcorner**, outside the centre

Reservation is possible using: www.accorhotels.com, and look for hotels in Amsterdam

Visa

Some participants are only allowed to travel to Amsterdam if they have an official visa. To get one in most cases an invitation letter for the seminar is needed.

We can provide such a letter, if you send us the necessary details to be mentioned in that letter.

Themes and groups: again a request...!

On Thursday we will have presentations and workshops, using five themes, related to the main theme of the seminar (RPL, QA and Implementation of procedures). These five themes are:

1. The role of a government in promoting RPL, in cooperation with other stakeholders like the employers organisations, the (organisations of) Higher Education Institutions and other networks . and to make an inventory of the most relevant and effective instruments.
2. RPL and quality assurance, and the role of the stakeholders in Higher Education.
3. The way HEIs and other organisations in higher education are dealing with RPL and are implementing effective procedures.
4. Quality Codes (and principles) for RPL procedures, including the European context of RPL and QA.
5. RPL and costs and benefits for all stakeholders.

We will divide the group of participants into subgroups, based on the preferences for the themes. Using these groups we have two arrangements in mind:

- You are a member of a group which will talk both in the morning and in the afternoon about the same theme. In this way you have the possibility to discuss with other experts on this theme and to talk about more details.
- You are interested in more themes, so we can give you the possibility to talk about two themes.

Request!!

Let us know, as participant, which one(s) of these themes is (are) you favorite(s)? If you want to discuss on Thursday about the same theme, mention this option in your email to info@leido.nl.

Documents

As promised in the last newsletter we will publish documents about the theme of the seminar on our website: www.dashe.nl/events/bologna/rpl.html.

The first ones are:

- A document with the five themes in the seminar, with a lot of details about the situation in the Netherlands. This document will be used as starting point for the discussions of the first day of the seminar.
- A document with a number of examples of national quality codes for RPL, with information about the principles and guidelines. This document includes also the Common Principles for RPL in Vocational Education and Training, accepted by the European Union in 2004 and updated in 2007. May be input for a discussion about common principles for RPL in higher education?

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be published at the beginning of November.